

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICOSI 01161 170925 Z

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CPR-02 PM-09 NSC-10 M-03 OPR-02 PA-03

RSC-01 SS-15 SY-10 USIA-12 PRS-01 A-01 RSR-01 USSS-00

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R 170855 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7407

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1161

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP US CH CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: MAKARIOS TRAVEL PLANS (CHINA AND WASHINGTON)

REF: NICOSIA 1101

SUMMARY: MAKARIOS WILL VISIT CHINA AFTER COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS MEETING; EXPRESSES INTEREST IN CALLING ON PRESIDENT NIXON.

1. IN DISCUSSING ANTICIPATED DEVELOPMENTS IN CYPRUS CHURCH CONTROVERSY (SEPTTEL), PRES . MAKARIOS EXPRESSED HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO LEAVE CYPRUS FOR A THREE- WEEK TRIP WHICH WOULD TAKE HIM TO OTTAWA MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS AUGUST 2-10 AND ONWARD TO OTHER DESTINATIONS THEREAFTER.

2. MAKARIOS REMINDED ME HE HAD BEEN INVITED TO VISIT PEKING AND SAID HE HAD ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE AND WOULD TRY TO GO THERE AFTER OTTAWA MEETING. (THERE WAS JOKING REFERENCE TO REVOLT IN GHANA WHICH HAD BROKEN OUT WHILE NKRUMAH WAS IN PEKING.) HE SAID THAT IN DISCUSSING SUBJECT WITH FONMIN CHRISTOPHIDES, THEY HAD AGREED IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE DESIRABLE FOR ARCHBISHOP TO MEET WITH PRES. NIXON IF THAT WERE POSSIBLE. ARCHBISHOP TOLD ME HE DID NOT WISH TO MAKE ANY FORMAL REQUEST OR TO DO ANY-
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PAGE 02 NICOSI 01161 170925 Z

THING THAT WOULD CAUSE EMBARRASSMENT, BUT IT WAS APPARENT
HE IS KEENLY INTERESTED

3. I REPEATED WHAT I HAD TOLD FONMIN (REFTEL) -- THAT
THERE MIGHT BE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES IN FITTING SUCH VISITS
INTO PRES. NIXON' S TIGHT SCHEDULE, ESPECIALLY IF OTHER
COMMONWEALTH PRIME MINISTERS SHOULD WISH TO VISIT WASHINGTON
AT SAME TIME. TOLD ARCHBISHOP EMBASSY WOULD RELAY ANY
REPLY FROM WASHINGTON AS SOON AS WE RECEIVED IT.

4. COMMENT: AS PREVIOUSLY STATED, SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE
MOST HELPFUL TO U. S. STANDING IN CYPRUS, AS WAS SIMILAR
VISIT IN NOVEMBER 1970. ARCHBISHOP UNDERSTANDS DECISION
MAY NOT BE FORTHCOMING IMMEDIATELY.
POPPER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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